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Use of Online Resources among College Library Users in Kashmir Region.

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Abstract

*Education is constantly changing while it responds to needs which are themselves continuously developing and modifying that are prompted by political, legal, cultural, social and economic pressures. Moreover with the introduction of information technology (IT) whole world has turned into a global village. Which is increasingly dependent on the creative management and distribution of information. With the result significant changes can be seen in the delivery of information around the world. The paper attempts to analyze the usage and impact of online information sources among the medical fraternity (faculty members and students) in order to fetch their awareness level with regard to the latest developments in the field through the introduction of modern information technologies (information sources, services, human resources etc) that deeply affecting the social Structure**,** especially application of information communication technology (ICT) in libraries has become apparent in the time of information explosion and widespread use of digital resources.*

Keyword: Information, Technology, Library, online, Resources.

Introduction

Information is a most prime element in the present society. Due to which sometimes, this society is also referred to as information alert society. In which people realized the importance of access to information. In which rapid extraordinary developments, especially the information technology has influenced all the components. Even the modernization of libraries and information centers enabled information transfer and access, meeting objectives and there by establishing more advanced form of library and information networks (**Theresa and Lalithamba, 2008)**. As information and communication technology acts as tool(s) used for collection, processing, storage, transmission and dissemination of information (**Ebujuwa, 2005)**. That enhances easy retrieval of information from electronic resources in comparison to manual

systems. Also with the help of web, attainment of work has become very much simplified. Order placing, duplication checking, price checking etc are done very effectively performed using IT technique. Online bookshops and publisher's websites save the time. All this is possible only with the advances in ICT (electronic information resources) such as electronic books, electronic journals, CD-ROM databases, OPAC, online databases **(Smith, Michael Quinton, 2005).** Therefore, it is due to ICT advancement that provides tools for managing the rush of information generated by modern society and enables society to create, collect, consolidate, communicate, manage as well as process information in various multimedia/digital formats for different purposes. Development in ICT have brought about the merger of the computing, information, communication, entertainment and mass media industries thereby providing a means of exchanging information anytime anywhere in the digital format used by computers. These technologies immensely improved technological efficiency of interpersonal communication and data processing and storing, which is linked to the birth of e-library **(Oyeniyi, Oluwakemi and Paul, 2013).** But in another dimension, **Islam & Islam (2006),** compared ICT and Information (IT) as a parallel concept that denotes not only a single unit of technology but an assemble of technologies like communication equipment, data processing equipment, semi-conductors, consumer electronics etc. The emergence of ICT has brought tremendous changes in library and information work, the traditional concept of libraries from a 'store house' of books to an 'intellectual information centre". Also emergence of internet as the largest repository of information and knowledge, changed role of library and information science professionals from intermediary to facilitator, new tools for dissemination of information and shift from physical to virtual services environment and extinction of some conventional information services and emergence of new and innovation web based **(Krubu and Osawaru, 2010).** Moreover, the development of e-resources over the past three decades and elaborated key features, disadvantages and benefits of traditional as well as online databases, CD- Rom and online resources. That reveals that information resources have shifted more towards internet. Although there is need to find out, basic identifying key issues in determining such a shift (**Wagner, 2003)**.

Technological Impact on Medical Field

Libraries had been performed many important roles in the past societies (agrarian and industrial). But those roles were limited in scope. Now, in the 21st century, libraries have to perform crucial

roles in disseminating and sharing the culture of knowledge. Specify them (libraries) as the repositories of all of the knowledge and information accumulated by human kind. They will have to store all kinds and forms of material. So as to disseminate the information beyond the geographical boundaries. Which might be due to the introduction of advanced technologies enabling libraries to accomplish this immense task (**Bailin and Grafstein, 2005).** Infact, in medical libraries, the latest technologies are increasingly used to collect, store, retrieve and disseminate a great amount of information to help medical professionals in their day-to-day education, research, and clinical practices. The medical websites and databases developed by medical institutions, associations, agencies, and publishers provide the latest information. Many medical libraries have set up remote access to their collections, allowing medical professionals to use online resources from their campus office, hospital workstations, whether the physical library is open or closed (**Anasuya, 2017).** As the internet, one of the important scientific developments in this field, provides a wealth of information in relation to diseases, therapeutic procedures and pharmaceutical products and also has an added advantage of being available worldwide instantly on demand **(Towle, 1998).** Infact, it can be observed from the study that **Rehman** and **Ramzy** in the year 2004 conducted to assess the awareness and use of electronic information resources at the health Medicine (Med) centre of Kuwait University. The study revealed that the professionals were using only MEDLINE database among all other electronically subscribed resources. Also the primary factors for the less usage of electronic resources were determined as the time constraint, lack of awareness and the absence of basic use skills. Further the basic training program and active involvement of librarian is the crucial step to make the effective use of these resources. on the other hand study on the use of internet by medical students and resident doctors of Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC) has shown that it (internet access) costs lower as compared to paper-based dissemination of information and also has an added advantage of being available worldwide instantly on demand. Therefore, there is a need not only to equip medical fraternity with adequate skills for use of internet but also to make internet facility available in institutions providing medical education and health-care **(Lal, Malhotra, Ahuja and Ingle, 2006).** Moreover, the impact of information communication technologies has been analyzed in a survey to all faculty members in medicine, nursing and pharmacy of the University of Illinois at Chicago. Mailed questionnaire method was adopted for data collection. 554 (49.4%) faculty members responded to the survey. Survey showed that index medicines and MEDLlNE

were not sufficient to meet all the information needs of many health Medicine (Med) faculties. Faculty members preferred accessing electronic databases from their offices rather than library and most faculties did not take advantage of either in-house or electronic training sessions offered by librarians. The findings indicate the need to promote research delivery models for training on the use of new and electronic resources (**Curtis, 1997)**.

Methodology and Scope

The scope of present study is confined to four disciplines i.e., Medicine (**Med)**, Surgery **(Sur)**, pediatrics **(Pea),** Orthopaedics **(Ortho)** of Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar. Which has been selected randomly by consulting the website of the institution. Further the present study utilized a, questionnaires as well as personal interviews for data collection. Both the ways (questionnaire/interviews) found quite useful in soliciting information from faculty members and students. Hence, the data collected for this study was a combination of primary as well as secondary forms. A total of 125 questionnaires were distributed out of which 97 has been received back indicating 77.6% as the response rate that includes 38 faculty members and 59 students from all the selected fields that has been randomly selected by consulting the website (http://www.gmcs.edu.in)of the institution. The collected data were organized, tabulated and analyzed by using arithmetic methods.

Objectives

To examine the role and status of online resources in the library of GMC Srinagar.

To study the Impact of IT on library information sources and services.

Data Analysis

The collected data is presented and analyzed with the help of charts. For which Microsoft excel has been employed.

1) Use of Databases for attaining required information.

CH 8: Faculty Members **-F1(References), F2(Additional Readings), F3(Both), F4(None**): As evident from Fig 1 for looking additional source of information in the databases highest 50% faculty members of Orthopaedics (Ortho), followed by 33.33% of Pediatrics, 30% of Medicine, lowest 22.22% of Surgery (Sur) faculty members using references. while as 20% of Pediatrics,11.11% of Surgery (Sur), 10% of Medicine (Med) faculty members prefer additional

readings. Highest 66.66% of Surgery (Sur), followed by 60% of Medicine, 50% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) and lowest 44.44% of Pediatrics (Pea) faculty members using both.

CH 8: Students **-F1(References), F2(Additional Readings), F3(Both), F4(None)**: From Fig 1 it is clear that for looking additional source of information in the databases highest 50% Students of Surgery (Sur), followed by 44.44% of Medicine,33.33% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), lowest 30.76% of Pediatrics (Pea)prefer references. while as 13.33% of Medicine,11.11% of Surgery (Sur) and Orthopaedics (Ortho), 7.69% of Pediatrics (Pea)Students use additional readings. Highest 44.44% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), followed by 33.33% of Medicine, 30.76% of Pediatrics (Pea)and lowest 22.22% of Surgery (Sur) using both. on the other hand, 33.33% of Medicine,30.76 of Pediatrics, 16.66% of Surgery (Sur) and 11.11% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) Students use none of the above-mentioned options to look for further information in the databases

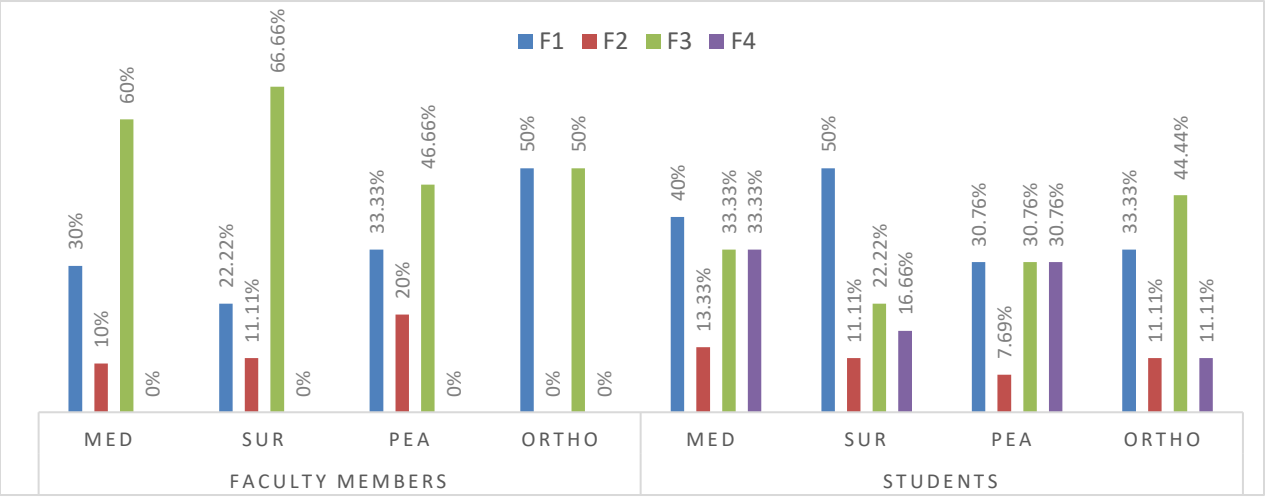


Fig 1: Looking for information in the Databases.

F1= References **F2**= Additional readings **F3**= Both **F4**= None

2) Use of links to search within issues in databases

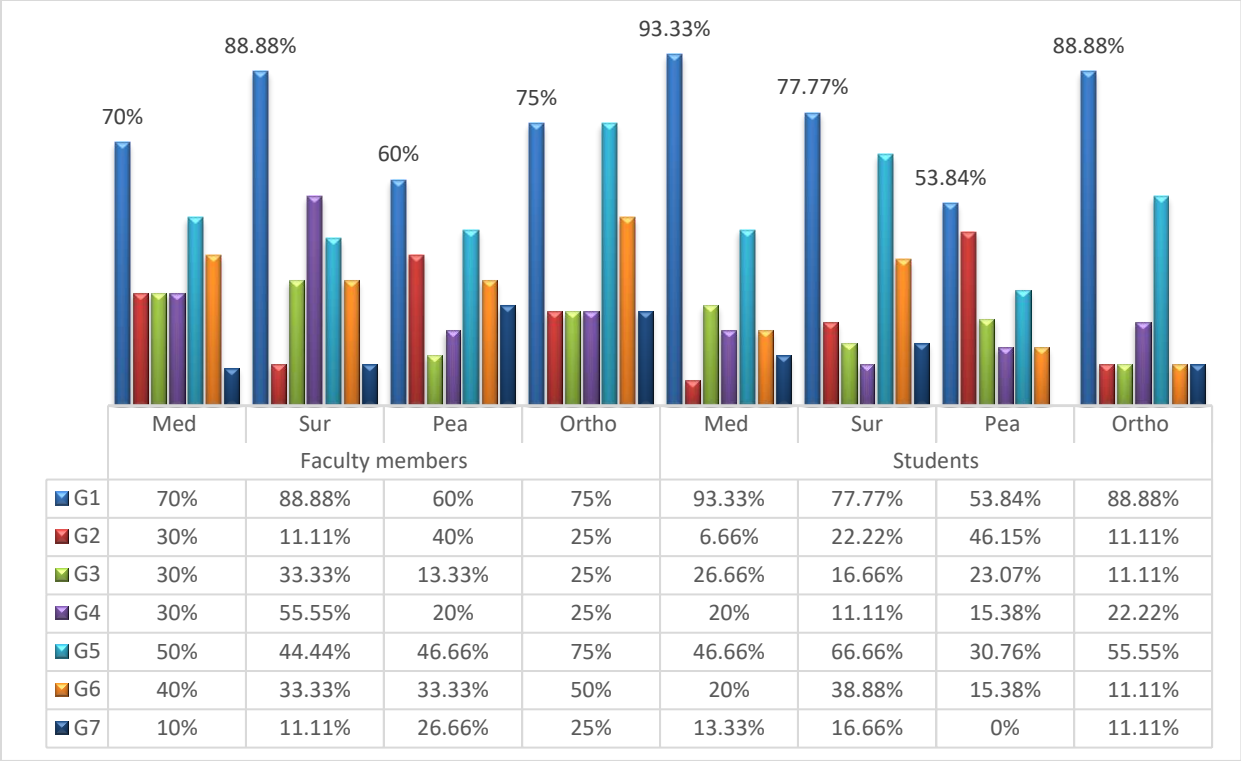
CH 9: Faculty Members **- G1 and G2:** As evident from Fig 2 highest 88.88% of Surgery (Sur) faculty members in databases are making use of links to search within the issues followed by 75% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) faculty members, 70% of Medicine (Med)and lowest 60% of Pediatrics. Fig 2 also clearly depicts the percentage of the faculty members who are not making use of links to search within the issues result includes highest 40% of Pediatrics, followed by

30% of Medicine, 25% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) and lowest 13.33 % of Surgery (Sur) faculty members.

G3(Summary Plus), G4(Full text+ links), G5(Pdf), G6(Abstracts), G7 (Detailed view): Fig 2 shows that highest 33.33% of Surgery (Sur), followed by 30% of Medicine, 25% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), lowest 13.33% of Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members using summary plus to search within the issues. Full text+links are used by highest 55.55% of Surgery (Sur), followed by 30% of Medicine, 25% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) , lowest 20% of Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members. Highest 75% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) , followed by 50% Medicine, 46.66 of Pediatrics, lowest 44.44% of Surgery (Sur) uses Pdf. Highest 50% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) , followed by 40% of Medicine, lowest 33.33% of Surgery (Sur) and Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members uses Abstracts. Detailed view is being used by highest 26.66% of Pediatrics, followed by 25% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 11.11% of Surgery (Sur) and lowest 10% of Medicine (Med) faculty members

CH 9: Students **- G1 and G2:** The above Fig 2 shows that highest 93.33% of Medicine (Med) Students in databases are making use of links to search within the issues followed by 88.88% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) faculty Students, 77.77% of Surgery (Sur) and lowest 53.84% of Pediatrics. Fig 2 also clearly depicts the percentage of the Students who are not making use of links to search within the issues result includes highest 46.15% of Pediatrics, followed by 22.22 % of Surgery (Sur), 11.11% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) and lowest 6.66% of Medicine (Med) Students.

G3(Summary Plus), G4(Full text+ links), G5(Pdf), G6(Abstracts), G7(Detailed view): Fig 2 shows that highest 26.66% of Medicine, followed by 23.07% of Pediatrics, 16.66% of Surgery (Sur), lowest 11.11% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) Students using summary plus to search within the issues. Full text+links are used by highest 22.22% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 20% of Medicine, 15.38% of Pediatrics, lowest 11.11% of Surgery (Sur) Students. Highest 66.66% of Surgery (Sur), followed by 55.55% Orthopaedics (Ortho) , 46.66 of Medicine, lowest 30.76% of Pediatrics (Pea)Students uses Pdf. Highest 38.88% of Surgery (Sur), followed by 20% of Medicine, 15.38% of Pediatrics (Pea)and lowest11.11% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) Students uses Abstracts. Detailed view is being used by highest 16.66% of Surgery (Sur), followed by 13.33% of Medicine,11.11% Orthopaedics (Ortho) and lowest 0%of Pediatrics (Pea) Students.



	Faculty members				Students			
	Med	Sur	Pea	Ortho	Med	Sur	Pea	Ortho
G1	70%	88.88%	60%	75%	93.33%	77.77%	53.84%	88.88%
G2	30%	11.11%	40%	25%	6.66%	22.22%	46.15%	11.11%
G3	30%	33.33%	13.33%	25%	26.66%	16.66%	23.07%	11.11%
G4	30%	55.55%	20%	25%	20%	11.11%	15.38%	22.22%
G5	50%	44.44%	46.66%	75%	46.66%	66.66%	30.76%	55.55%
G6	40%	33.33%	33.33%	50%	20%	38.88%	15.38%	11.11%
G7	10%	11.11%	26.66%	25%	13.33%	16.66%	0%	11.11%

Fig 2: In databases use of links to search within issues

G1= Yes **G2**= No **G3**= Summary Plus **G4**= Full text+ links

G5= Pdf **G6**= Abstracts **G7**= Detailed view

3) Selecting the result for the given query

Faculty Members - **H1, H2, H3, H4:** Fig 3 shows that highest 60% of Medicine, followed by 33.33% of Surgery (Sur) and Pediatrics, lowest 25% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) faculty members select the results from first ten by looking at the title. While as highest 40% of Medicine, followed by 26.66% of Pediatrics, 25% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), lowest 22.22% of Surgery (Sur) faculty members select the results by looking at the URL. Selecting results by reading snippet is preferred by highest 50% of Medicine (Med)and Orthopaedics (Ortho) followed by 44.44% of Surgery (Sur), lowest40% of Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members.

Students- H1, H2, H3, H4: It is evident from Fig 3 that highest 66.66% of Surgery (Sur), followed by 60% of Medicine, 55.55% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) and lowest 38.46% Pediatrics (Pea)Students select the results from first ten by looking at the title. While as 46.66% of Medicine, 27.77% of Surgery (Sur), 23.07% of Pediatrics, 22.22% of Orthopaedics (Ortho)

Students selects the results by looking at the URL. Selecting results by reading snippet is preferred by highest 33.33% of Medicine, followed by 16.66% of Surgery (Sur), 15.38% of Pediatrics (Pea) and lowest 11.11% Orthopaedics (Ortho) Students. 30.76% of Pediatrics (Pea) and 11.11% of Surgery (Sur) and Orthopaedics (Ortho) Students do not select the results by the above mentioned options.

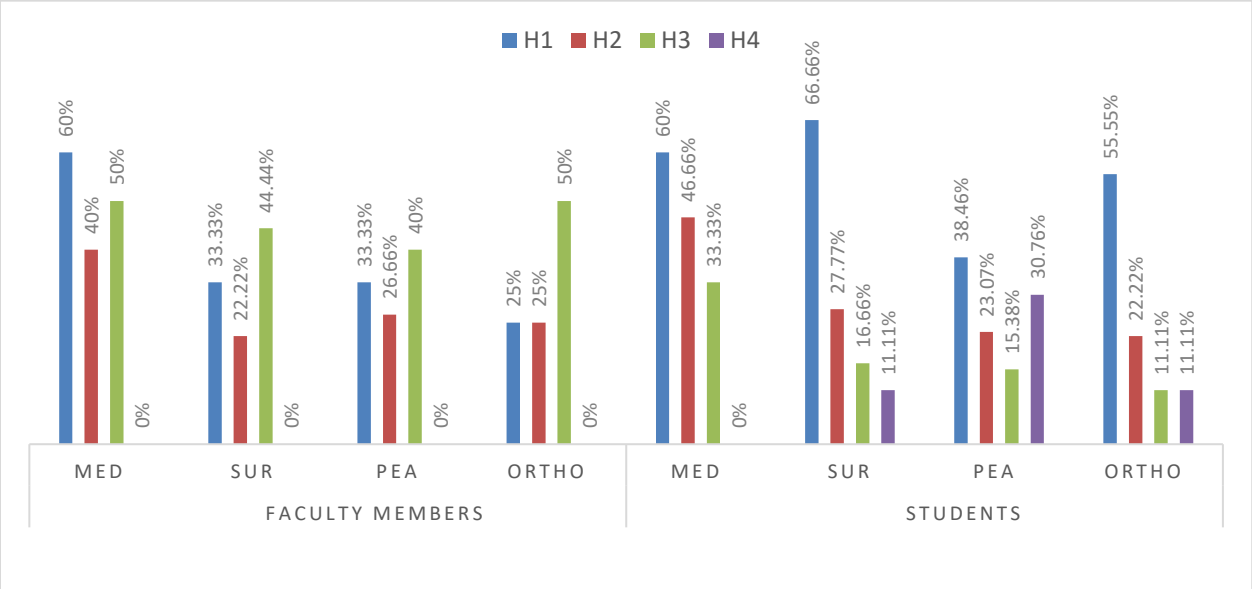


Fig 3: I select the result from the first ten results by

H1= Looking at the title **H2**= Looking at the URL **H3**= Reading Snippet **H4**= None

4) Exploitation of ways to connect with Databases

Faculty Members - **I1, I2, I3, I4:** Fig 4 indicates that highest 50% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), followed by 40% of Medicine (Med)and Pediatrics, lowest 22.22% of Surgery (Sur) faculty members connect to databases on-campus. 13.33% of Pediatrics,11.11% of Surgery (Sur), 10% of Medicine (Med)faculty members use Ez- proxy service to get connected to databases. Both (on- campus, Ez- proxy) is used by 60% of Medicine, 50% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 44.44% of Surgery (Sur), 20% of Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members. 26.66% of Pediatrics (Pea)and 22.22% of Surgery (Sur) faculty members use none (on-campus, Ez-proxy).

Students- I1, I2, I3, I4: Fig 4 indicates that highest 55.55% of Surgery (Sur) and Orthopaedics (Ortho), followed by 46.66% of Medicine (Med)and lowest 30.76% of

Pediatrics (Pea)Students connect to databases on-campus. 22.22% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 13.33% of Medicine, 7.69% of Pediatrics, 5.55% of Surgery (Sur) Students use Ez- proxy service to get connected to databases. Both (on- campus, Ez- proxy) is used by 40% of Medicine,33.33% of Surgery (Sur), 30.76% of Pediatrics, 22.22% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) Students. 30.76% of Pediatrics (Pea)and 55.55 % of Surgery (Sur) Students use none (on-campus, Ez-proxy).

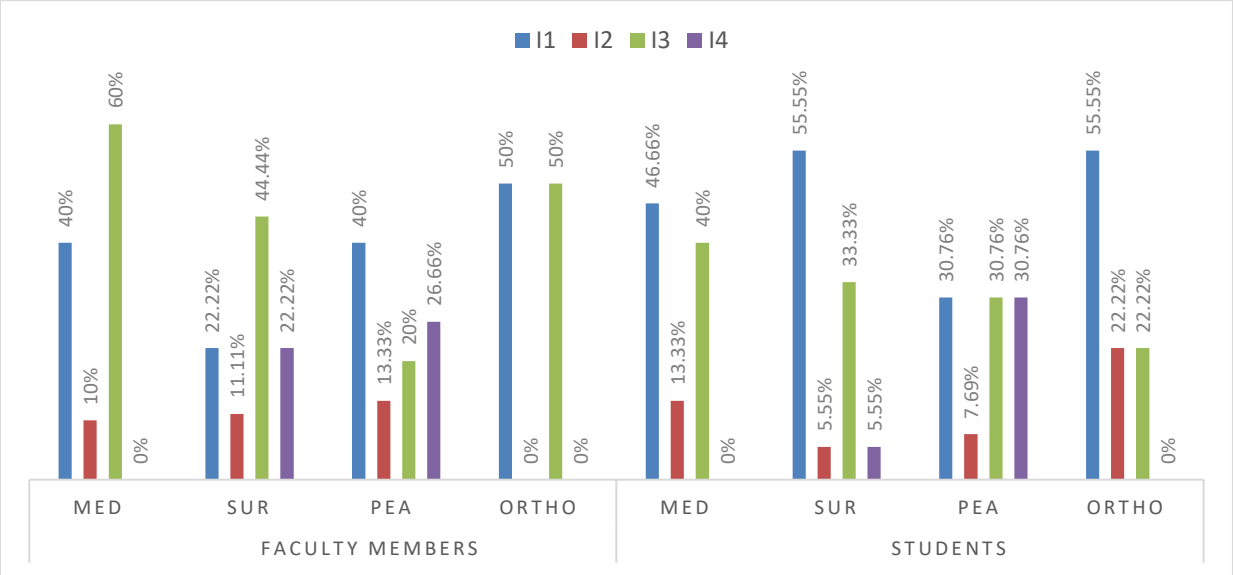


Fig 4: Ways to Connect with Databases

I1= On- campus **I2**= Ez-proxy **I3**= Both **I4**= None

5) *Preference to Browsing Interfaces of Databases*

Faculty Members - **J1, J2, J3, J4**: Fig 5 shows that highest 60% of Medicine, followed by 50% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), lowest 33.33% of Surgery (Sur) and Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members prefer simple browsing interfaces of databases. 75% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 55.55% of Surgery (Sur), 50% of Medicine, 46.66% of Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members prefer advance browsing interfaces. On the other hand33.33% of Surgery (Sur), 25% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 20% of Medicine (Med)and Pediatrics (Pea)use alphabetical interfaces. While as subject specific browsing interfaces is preferred by 50% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 30% of Medicine, 44.44% of Surgery (Sur), 20% of Pediatrics (Pea) faculty members

Students- J1, J2, J3, J4: Fig 5 shows that highest 33.33% of Surgery (Sur) and Orthopaedics (Ortho), followed by 23.07% Pediatrics, lowest 20% of Medicine (Med)Students prefer simple browsing interfaces of databases.61.53% of Pediatrics, 60% of Medicine,27.77% of Surgery (Sur),22.22% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) Students prefer advance browsing interfaces. 46.15% of Pediatrics,26.11% of Medicine,11.11% of Surgery (Sur) and Orthopaedics (Ortho) Students use alphabetical interfaces. While as subject specific browsing interfaces is preferred by 50% of Surgery (Sur), 44.44% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) ,38.46% of Pediatrics (Pea)and 33.33% of Medicine (Med)Students.

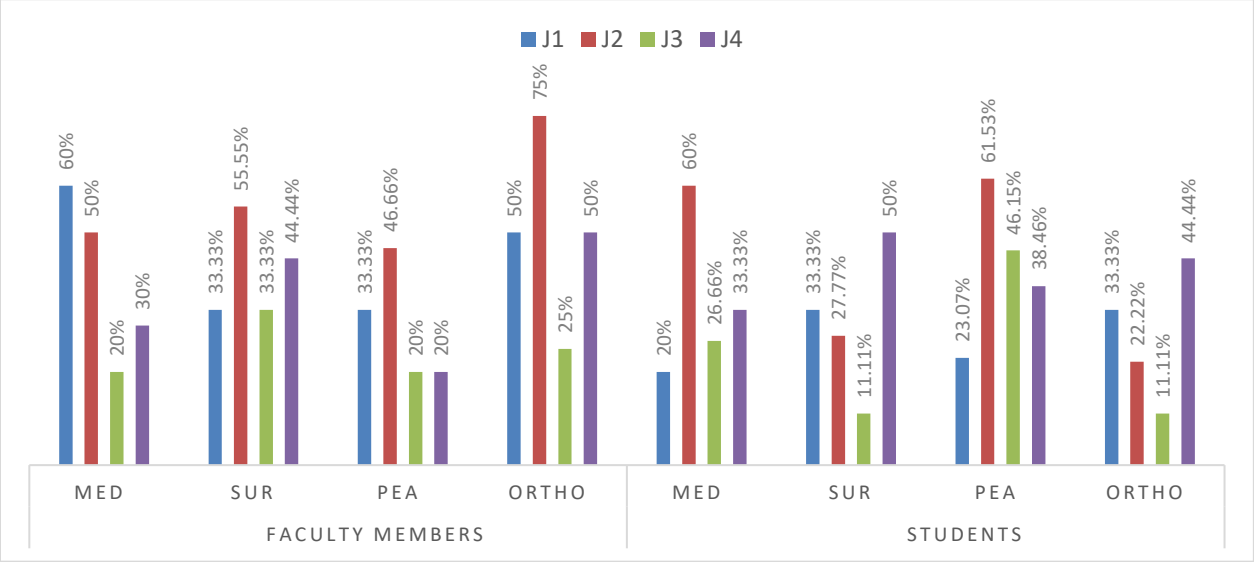


Fig 5: I prefer following browsing interfaces of Databases

J1= Simple **J2**= Advance **J3**= Alphabetical **J4**= Subject specific

6) Browsing products in the Databases & Within a Journal

Faculty Members - K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6: It is evident from fig 6 that highest 25% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), followed by 22.22% of Surgery (Sur), lowest 20% of Medicine (Med)and Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members like to browse books in the databases. 26% of Pediatrics, 22.22% of Surgery (Sur), 10% of Medicine (Med)faculty members browse journals in the databases. Both (Books and journals) preferred by 75% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 70% of Medicine, 55.55% of Surgery (Sur), 53.33% of Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members. 50% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 33.33% of Surgery (Sur), 30% of Medicine, 20% of Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members within a journal browse through table of contents. Highest

75% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) , followed by 70% of Medicine, 44.44% of Surgery (Sur), lowest 33.33% of Pediatrics (Pea)faculty members browse through abstracts and references. Highest 46.66% of Pediatrics, followed by 25% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 22.22% of Surgery (Sur) and lowest20% of Medicine (Med)faculty members use volume and issue to browse within a journal.

Students- K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6: It is evident from Fig 6 that highest 53.84% of Pediatrics, followed by 22.22% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 20% of Medicine (Med)and lowest 5.55% of Surgery (Sur) Students like to browse books in the databases. 38.88% of Surgery (Sur), 30.76% of Pediatrics, 10% of Medicine, 11.11% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) Students browse journals in the databases. Both (Books and journals) preferred by 66.66% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), 55.55% of Surgery (Sur), 53.33% of Medicine, 15.38% of Pediatrics (Pea)Students. Highest 77.77% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), followed by 40% of Medicine, 27.77% of Surgery (Sur), and lowest 15.38% of Pediatrics (Pea) Students like to browse within a journal through table of contents.73.33% of Medicine, 61.53% of Pediatrics, 55.55% of Orthopaedics (Ortho) and 38.88% of Surgery (Sur) Students browse through abstracts and references. Highest 66.66% of Surgery (Sur), followed by 38.46% of Pediatrics, 33.33% of Orthopaedics (Ortho), and lowest 26.66% of Medicine (Med) Students use volume and issue to browse within a journal.

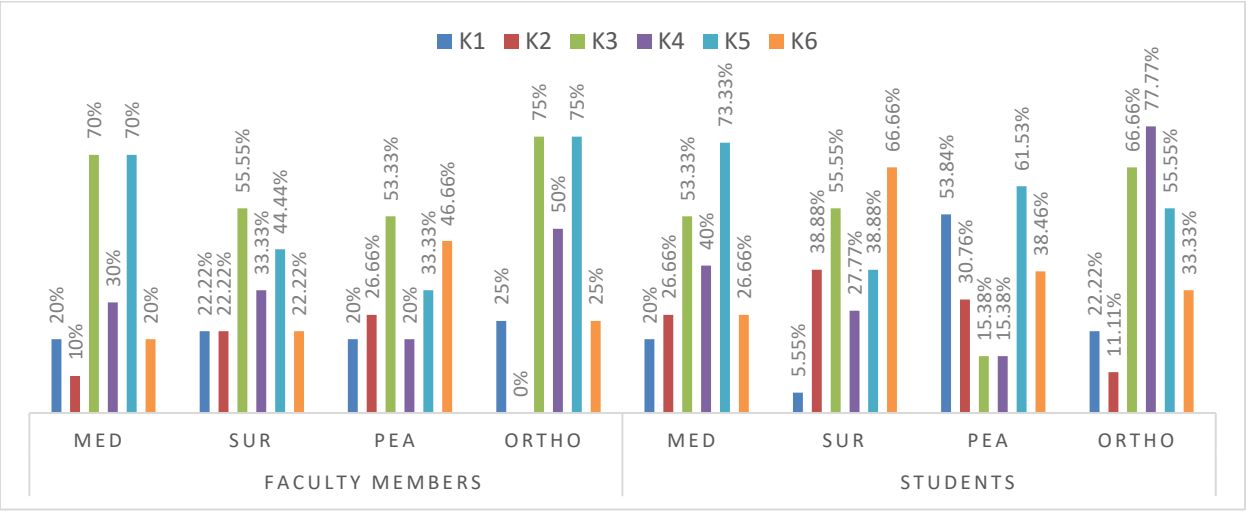


Fig 6: Browsing products in the Databases & Within a Journal

K1=Books **K2**= Journals **K3**= Both **K4**= Table of Contents

K5= Abstracts and References **K6**=Volume and Issue

Conclusion

Information technology has transformed the whole world, which is increasingly dependent on the creative management and distribution of information. Over the past decades the world has been experiencing significant changes in which the need to acquire, utilize and share knowledge has become increasingly essential. Infact, in the 21st century, the age of knowledge and information is in its higher gear. This is an age when invisible knowledge and information take the role of prime movers leading all sectors. The information society has passed through several transformational stages of development, where each and every stage has an important role to play. As a result, brought a never-ending revolution, particularly with the introduction of ever dynamic technologies. As a result, online access to information in the knowledge society. Enable users with special skills of the latest IT developments, to browse, access and retrieve particular information across the global networks and to organize and manage the information by constructing quality-information service to the knowledge society to enhance the strength of learning, teaching and research. Therefore, there is a need not only to equip medical fraternity with adequate skills for use of internet but also to make internet facility available in institutions providing medical education and health care. But for this, proper provision required that permit users to be trained on how to use these facilities towards achieving academic excellence. This can be done through continuous orientation and the inclusion of certain courses like: Use of computer for Information retrieval, Use of Internet/world wide web and IT applications.

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